



General Assembly

***Amendment***

***February Session, 2008***

**LCO No. 5483**

**\*HB0549505483HDO\***

Offered by:

REP. JARMOC, 59<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. WALKER, 93<sup>rd</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. **5495**

File No. 395

Cal. No. 226

***"AN ACT CONCERNING THE TRANSITION OF YOUTH FROM THE CARE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES TO THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES."***

1 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and  
2 internal references accordingly:

3 "Sec. 501. The Child Welfare League of America, pursuant to its  
4 contract with the Department of Children and Families, shall conduct  
5 an independent investigation into the quality of the department's  
6 efforts to engage extended families in the care of children who are in  
7 the custody of the commissioner. Such independent investigation shall  
8 include: (1) A qualitative case review of children under the age of  
9 twelve who were removed from the home of their parents or  
10 guardians between June 30, 2006, and June 30, 2007; (2) an assessment  
11 of the timeliness and quality of the department's efforts to identify and  
12 contact relatives who might be available as placement or visitation  
13 resources; (3) an assessment of the quality of the department's efforts

14 to engage and offer support to relatives who express initial  
15 unwillingness or inability to serve as placement or visitation resources;  
16 (4) an assessment of the frequency with which children are placed in  
17 the homes of relatives and whether the department has increased  
18 placement in relative homes since January 2004; and (5)  
19 recommendations for implementing best practices for engaging  
20 families and increasing the number of children placed in the care of  
21 relatives. On or before January 1, 2009, the department shall provide,  
22 in accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes, a copy of the  
23 independent investigation report to the joint standing committees of  
24 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human  
25 services, appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, and the  
26 select committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
27 matters relating to children."